**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of : Paivi Jaana Kukkola

Application No.: 09/533,219 Group No.: 1624
Filed: March 23, 2000 Examiner: T. N. Truong
For: Thyromimetic Organic Compounds

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**DECLARATION UNDER C.F.R. § 1.131**

Sir:

Regarding U.S. patent application No. 09/533,219 filed March 23, 2000, I, Paivi Jaana Kukkola, hereby declare that:

I am an employee of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, a fully owned subsidiary of Novartis AG, the assignee of the above identified application by unrecorded assignment, and was so employed prior to March 1, 1999 in the research laboratories located in Summit, New Jersey;

I am the sole inventor of the above identified application, and the inventor of the subject matter disclosed and claimed therein;

In the course of my employment I conceived and reduced to practice the invention of the instant claims prior to March 1, 1999, as shown by the facts discussed herein and documented in the enclosed Exhibit;

All of the work discussed herein and shown in the Exhibit was performed in the United States by me, under my supervision or on my behalf prior to March 1, 1999, as evidenced by the attached true copies of notebook records and compound registration sheets;

Prior to March 1, 1999, the compound of the instant claim 22 had been prepared and analyzed for structure confirmation and purity, registered for testing and caused to be tested as

a lipoprotein modulator (abbreviated as LPM) as evidenced by records attached hereto. The notebook records for the synthesis and biological evaluation are included in the Exhibit. The compound of the Exhibit is a compound specifically disclosed and claimed in the instant application, i.e., Example 26 claimed in Claim 22. The compound registration sheet is included as the first page of the Exhibit, and indicates the structural formula and analyses performed on the compound as well as a request for biological testing as a lipoprotein modulator. The last page of the Exhibit gives the data for binding to the thyroid hormone ($T_3$) nuclear receptor. The $IC_{50}$ value, determined as described on page 21 of the instant specification, has been found to be 0.17 nM for the compound of the instant application;

The copies of the notebook pages and the compound registration sheet in the enclosed Exhibit represent true copies, with the exception that all code designations and dates have been redacted, and pages in the Exhibit have been numbered. All dates in the Exhibit are prior to March 1, 1999.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signed on this 16th day of July, 2002 at Summit, New Jersey.

Paivi Jaana Kukkola